

Message

From: Bryan, David [Bryan.David@epa.gov]
Sent: 2/16/2021 4:07:58 PM
To: Weekley, Erin [weekley.erin@epa.gov]
CC: Washburn, Ben [washburn.ben@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: AltEn Ethanol Plant Release Assessment

Thanks, Erin.

From: Weekley, Erin <weekley.erin@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:07 AM
To: Bryan, David <Bryan.David@epa.gov>
Cc: Washburn, Ben <washburn.ben@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: AltEn Ethanol Plant Release Assessment

As far as I can tell this meeting will discuss pre-release issues and you do not need to attend. If that changes or another meeting is scheduled I will let you know.

Erin Weekley
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11201 Renner Boulevard
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From: Bryan, David <Bryan.David@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 9:58 AM
To: Weekley, Erin <weekley.erin@epa.gov>
Cc: Washburn, Ben <washburn.ben@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: AltEn Ethanol Plant Release Assessment

Should OPA be at this meeting? Or do I need to stay out of the inner workings? Your call.

From: Buchholz, Ken <Buchholz.Kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 9:55 AM
To: Bryan, David <Bryan.David@epa.gov>; Green, Jamie <Green.Jamie@epa.gov>; Beringer, Mike <Beringer.Michael@epa.gov>; Weekley, Erin <weekley.erin@epa.gov>
Cc: Bednar, Candace <Bednar.Candace@epa.gov>; mike.felix@nebraska.gov; Jones, Doug <jones.doug@epa.gov>; Deason, Ken <Deason.Ken@epa.gov>; Mindrup, Mary <Mindrup.Mary@epa.gov>; O'Connor, Daniel <oconnor.daniel@epa.gov>; Ruiz, Adam <Ruiz.Adam@epa.gov>; Juett, Lynn <Juett.Lynn@epa.gov>; Nazar, Kristen <Nazar.Kristen@epa.gov>; Hoefer, David <Hoefer.David@epa.gov>; Juett, Lynn <Juett.Lynn@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Update to EOC Spot Report: Region 7, AltEn Ethanol Plant Release Assessment

Erin,
I know the AltEn meeting on our calendars for today was not scheduled/ never intended to talk about EPA's 2/13 – 2/14 Valentines weekend response; but, let me know if you want me to extend the original invite to Doug Ferguson, OSC and Danny, his supervisor?

Thanks

Ken

p.s. please see the attached – maybe that is good enough and you can just attach it to the invite?

From: Curry, Tim

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 8:11 AM

To: Eoc, Epahq <Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov>

Cc: Peterson, Mary <Peterson.Mary@epa.gov>; Scott Hayes <Hayes.Scott@epa.gov>; Buchholz, Ken <Buchholz.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Juett, Lynn <Juett.Lynn@epa.gov>; Ruiz, Adam <Ruiz.Adam@epa.gov>; O'Connor, Daniel <oconnor.daniel@epa.gov>; Hoefer, David <Hoefer.David@epa.gov>; Irizarry, Gilberto <Irizarry.Gilberto@epa.gov>; Nazar, Kristen <Nazar.Kristen@epa.gov>; Woodyard, Josh <Woodyard.Joshua@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Update to EOC Spot Report: Region 7, AltEn Ethanol Plant Release Assessment

Update:

- The release was from a large anaerobic, closed-loop digester tank that produces the methane used to fuel boilers for the ethanol production process.
- Raw materials for the digester come from the Mead Cattle Company feedlot operations and stillage from operations.
- The release from the tank has been stopped.
- OSC Ferguson with START support traced the extent of off-site migration and collected samples in the drainageway and on the facility (see attached). Drainage off site eventually leads to the Platte River 16 miles downgradient.
- The NDEE has granted an emergency exemption to reduce freeboard in the impoundments to account for adding the collected materials.
- The responsible party has established containment measures at the downstream extent and agreed to collect released materials for return to the on-site impoundment.
- OSC and START demobilized from the site and initiated the process of identifying analytical methods and available laboratories for quick turnaround analyses.
- The samples have been submitted for analyses including a list of potential pesticides/herbicides/fungicides commonly used to treat seed grains.
- Analytical results and subsequent actions will be coordinated with NDEE.

From: Eoc, Epahq <Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov>

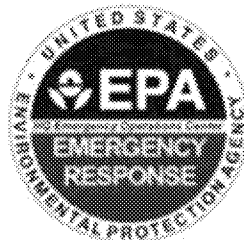
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2021 3:18 PM

To: Eoc, Epahq <Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov>

Subject: EOC Spot Report: Region 7, AltEn Ethanol Plant Release Assessment

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EOC Spot Report: Region 7, AltEn Ethanol Plant Release Assessment

MEAD, NE, NRC#1297838

US Environmental Protection Agency

Report Date: 2/13/2021

Last edited 2/13/2021 4:12 PM UTC

Overview: The Nebraska Department of Energy and Environment (NDEE) has requested assistance in responding to a release of materials from the AltEn LLC ethanol plant storage tanks in Mead, NE. Material has reached drainageways from the site and migrated beyond facility property. The site had recently been ordered by NDEE to cease operations while regulatory compliance issues were being evaluated and addressed. Potential for involvement of listed hazardous substances is high due to the ethanol feed stock being seed grains treated with various pesticides, herbicides and/or fungicides. Previous sampling of waste by NDEE has identified elevated levels of various seed treatment compounds. The responsible party has been attempting to secure and contain the release.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions: NDEE has deployed staff to the scene to investigate the situation.

EPA Actions: A Region 7 OSC and START contractor deployed to the site on Saturday, February 13 and will assist with assessment of the release and determination of appropriate follow up response activities.

Media Interest: Medium

Media Links:

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dtnpf.com%2Fagriculture%2Fweb%2Faq%2Fnews%2Fbusiness-inputs%2Farticle%2F2021%2F02%2F12%2Fpollution-fungicide-pesticide-wdg&data=04%7C01%7CCurry.Timothy%40epa.gov%7C7f5329e9b9fc43e88b8e08d8d03a9c95%7C88b378b367484867acf976aacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C637488297457029577%7CUnknown%7CTWfpbGZsb3d8eyJWlpoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&data=lnYbdi8mN%2FdkLxUDRXBm2wEhCeEo74fkZqQ4cgqH%2Fsg%3D&replied=0>

The EPA will continue to monitor and provide updates as needed

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